[9th August 1929

Civil Justice

Revision of the salaries of head clerks of District Munsifs' Courts.

* 185 Q.—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that before the recent revision of the salaries, head clerks of District Munsifs' Courts were getting a pay of Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 per mensem whilst the deputy nazirs of the said courts were getting only Rs. 25;

(b) whether it is a fact that the head clerks have to pass the Judicial, Translation and Account tests, whilst the deputy nazirs have to pass only the Account test and whether further the head clerk is the chief ministerial officer having to supervise the work of the deputy nazirs also;

(c) whether in spite of the work involved, under the revision, both classes of officers are paid Rs. 60—4—80; and

(d) whether it is a fact that in the case of the head clerks of Deputy Collectors' offices an enhanced salary has been sanctioned or is about to be sanctioned and if so, what it is?

A.—(a) Prior to the revision referred to, the pay of head clerks of District Munsifs' Courts varied from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 and that of deputy nazirs varied from Rs. 40 to Rs. 50.

(b) Head clerks are required to pass the Civil Judicial test and the Account test and deputy nazirs are required to pass the Account test. The head clerk supervises the clerical establishment and the deputy nazir the process serving establishment. The head clerk does not now generally supervise the work of the deputy nazir.

(c) Yes; the deputy nazir is performing equally onerous duties.

(d) In the general revision of pay sanctioned in 1921, the pay of head clerks in Deputy Collectors' Revenue Divisional Offices was fixed at Rs. 60—4—80. With effect from 1st April 1929 their pay has been fixed at Rs. 80 per mensem.

Forests

Classification of forests in North Arcot district.

* 186 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 2035 answered on 27th March 1929 regarding classification of forests in North Arcot district—

(a) what were the materials on which the recommendation of the Board and those of the District Committee of which the Collector and the three District Forest Officers were members, were based;

(b) whether it is a fact that even the Collector and the Chief Conservator of Forests who are responsible for the recommendations of the Committee were not given an opportunity to give their opinions in the matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Land Revenue Commissioner's inspection note was not based on any enquiry or detailed inspection;

(d) whether it is a fact that as a result there is fuel scarcity in the Tiruvannamalai town;

(e) whether any inquiry was made as to whether the panchayats are letting out coupes regularly, whether there is scarcity of fuel in the town and whether the price of fuel had risen abnormally high; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report from the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Collector concerned?

A.—(a) The hon. Member has been given all information in the possession of Government in answer to his questions Nos. 2011 and 2035 answered on 27th March 1929.

(b) The Collector and the Chief Conservator were not responsible for the recommendations of the Committee. The Collector was a member of the Committee and the Chief Conservator was consulted on the subject by Government.

(c) No.

(d) *to* (f) There appears to be some scarcity for fuel due to other causes. The Government have already called for a report. A copy of the Collector's report is appended.[a]

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), was there any definite report by the Land Revenue Commissioner or was it based upon the inspection note?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes. There was a report."

Income and expenditure in respect of the reserved forests of South Kanara.

* 187 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table the total income and expenditure, giving the main heads if possible, in respect of the reserved forests of South Kanara, in each of the years following the year in which the reserves were first constituted?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the several annual reports contained in the administration reports of the Forest department, where the required figures for the district as a whole will be found. The Government consider that it is not worthwhile to compile the revenue and expenditure figures for each reserve separately as they can be worked out only at the cost of immense labour.

Forest policy of the Government.

* 188 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. KARANT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table a copy of the questionnaire issued by Government to the Forest department in regard to the policy of the department; and

(b) to state—

(i) whether Government have received any replies from the department or any report in regard to the forest policy of the Government or in regard to the appointment of a committee of the Council as resolved upon by the Council; and

(ii) whether Government have decided upon the appointment of such a committee; if not, why not?

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 435 infra.